

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

SAHASHI et al.

Serial No.: New Application

Group Art Unit:

Filed: December 14, 2000

Examiner:

For: DRIVE WHEEL BEARING ASSEMBLY

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 14, 2000

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to the examination of this application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 4, line 2, delete "to 3" and insert therefor -- or 2 --.

Claim 12, line 2, delete "1 to 11" and insert therefor -- 1, 5, 6 or 9 --.

Claim 13, line 2, delete "1 to 12" and insert therefor -- 1, 5, 6 or 9 --.

Claims 15, 17 and 18, line 2, delete "1 to 14" and insert therefor
-- 1, 5, 6 or 9 --.

Claims 21, 22 and 24, line 2, delete "or 20".

Claim 23, lines 1 and 2, delete "any one of claims 19 to 22" and insert
therefor -- claim 19 --.

Claim 32, line 2, delete "or 27".

Claims 35, 36 and 37, line 2, delete "or 34".

Please add the following claim:

-- 38. (Added) A drive wheel bearing assembly according to claim 27, wherein annular grooves are formed on serrations between said torque transmission coupling shaft and said outer joint ring, and a keeper ring is mounted detachably into said annular grooves. --

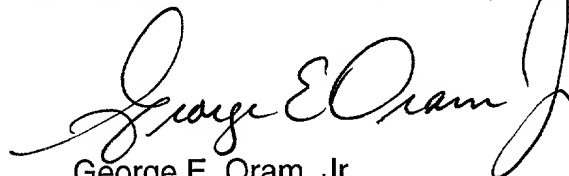
REMARKS

The above amendment to the claims have been made to correct the multiple dependency of the claims and to put the application in better condition for examination. No new matter has been added.

In the event that any fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,

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